5. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 9-184973

(1) page 3, paragraph 13

[0013]

Then, the movement is explained. Fig. 2 is a flow chart showing the movements of the electric still camera shown in Fig. 1. By the way, all the movements are to be controlled by a system controller 14 unless otherwise specified. In Fig. 2, when a power source switch (not shown) of the electric still camera is on (S101), the electric still camera becomes a standby state (S102). Figs. 3 are diagrams showing movements of an aperture blade 2 and a shield blade 4. In Figs. 3, a circle A drawn by a dotted line denotes a picture taking light flux of the picture taking lens 1 shown in Fig. 1. When putting on the power source switch, the positional relation between the aperture blade 2 and the shield blade 3 [sic] is a state shown in Fig. 3 (a). Namely, the aforementioned spectacles-like apertures 2a and 2b are located in the light flux of the picture taking lens 1, and the shield blade 4 shields the aperture 2a of the spectacles-like apertures.

[0014]

Back to Fig. 2, when the release button 7 is pushed and release signal is given out in step S102, the brightness of an object is measured by the light meter 8, and f-number and exposure time for taking picture are set (S103).

[0015]

Then, the imaging device 6 is exposed by predetermined time period corresponding to the brightness of the object. Signals from predetermined area in the imaging plane of the imaging device are read out, and output to the distance

measuring means 9 as a first distance measuring signal (S104). Then, the shield blade 4 is driven by the motor 5 so as to shield the aforementioned spectacles-like aperture 2b of the aperture blade 2 as shown in Fig. 3 (b) (S105). When the aforementioned spectacles-like aperture 2b is shielded regardless of whether the shield blade 4 has come to a standstill or not, the imaging device 6 is immediately exposed again by predetermined time period. Then, Signals from predetermined area are read out, and output to the distance measuring means 9 as a second distance measuring signal (S106).

[0016]

In the distance measuring means 9, by using the obtained first and second distance measuring signals, a cross correlation is calculated, a phase difference of each signal is calculated, and a direction and an amount of defocusing are calculated from the phase difference (S107).